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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 14, 2008, the applicant hereby elects Group I, namely claims 18 to 23 directed to the species with a cut out portion for a sealing strip along a marginal edge of the label. This election is made with traverse. The applicant submits that while claims 31 to 36 are directed to the embodiment of Fig. 5, claims 24 to 30 are directed to a label as shown in Fig. 6. This label is made using the method according to claims 18 to 23. Claim 18 recites a method comprising the step of "(d) covering at least said cutout with a sealing strip extending at least over the thickness of said metallization layer with the sealing strip extending into said cutout." Claim 24 recites a label comprising "a label contour, having a marginal edge (37c) which is covered by a sealing strip (41c) extending at least over the thickness of the metallization layer (31c)..."

Thus, Applicants submit that claims 24 to 30 are directed to the same inventive concept as claims 18 to 23 and request that the Examiner also include these claims in the elected group.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

1/14/09

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